

The Overseas Press

BULLETIN

WEEKLY PUBLICATION OF THE OVERSEAS PRESS CLUB OF AMERICA
35 EAST 39TH STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK



Vol. 12, No. 33

August 17, 1957

OPC Protests Cuban Censorship

A protest against imposition of censorship and suspension of Constitutional guarantees in Cuba was registered by the OPC last week.

A cable to President Fulgencio Batista protested the restrictive action and urged the immediate restoration of freedom of the press.

The message was signed by President Cecil Brown and Louis Lochner, chairman of the Freedom of the Press Committee.

Neda M. Westlake, assistant curator of the University of Pennsylvania, has asked if the OPC would consider

Club Calendar

Tues., Aug 27 -Open House -
Herbert L. Matthews, N.Y. Times.
Analysis of latest events in Cuba.
Cocktails, 6:00 p.m., buffet supper.

(The programs originally scheduled for Monday, August 19 - OPC Family Picnic at Sunken Meadow State Park, Long Island, and Tuesday, August 20 - Open House with guest Rex Smith, have been cancelled. There will be no program on either day.)

placing its Correspondence Files in the school's Rare Book Collection. The suggestion was made to OPC founder member William C. Lengel.

BASSOW IN A BASKET



Toting their newly-born daughter, Elizabeth Fern, in a car-bed, UP Moscow correspondent Whitman Bassow and his wife, Margit, prepare to board a Pan American plane at Idlewild Airport Aug. 5. They were returning, after home leave, to Bassow's post in the Russian capital where he also serves as *The Overseas Press Bulletin* correspondent.

BRACKER INTERVIEWS TRUJILLO ON GALINDEZ



Photo: Kelley of Life

Bracker on the Job

ERNST DECLINES COMMENT

Milton Bracker's exclusive interview with Generalissimo Trujillo in the Dominican Republic was frontpaged in the N.Y. Times in its Aug. 13 issue.

Bracker reported that the Generalissimo said he had no interest in the case of the disappearance of Dr. Jesus de Galindez, and it was "all a matter for the New York police."

Bracker pointed out that Trujillo's reference to the New York police has another facet, that of the problem of growing juvenile delinquency in New York which has received much publicity in the Latin country. Since Galindez, an instructor at Columbia University, disappeared in New York City on March 12, 1956, some Dominicans now seem

(Continued on page 5)

DINING ROOM CLOSED

The second floor Dining Room of the OPC is closed until after Labor Day for alteration and redecoration.

Lunch will continue to be served in the bar and fourth floor from noon until 2:00 p.m.

Dinner will be served in the fourth floor temporary dining rooms from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and in the bar from 8:00 p.m. until midnight.

HARTMAN BACK IN BUDAPEST

Carl Hartman, AP, has returned to his Budapest assignment after a trip into Bulgaria. He found the Bulgarians "eager to be nice to Americans—they would dearly like to resume diplomatic relations" and the Foreign Ministry anxious to arrange more trips than he had time for. But his request to visit Belene Island in the Danube, site of a well-known concentration camp, was turned down. "It's not the most interesting place in Bulgaria," the Ministry spokesman explained.

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OVERSEAS TICKER

ROME

Gary Black, chairman of the board of the A.S. Abell Co., publishers of the Baltimore Sun papers, was among visitors to Rome this month. He looked in on offices of the *Baltimore Sun*'s Rome bureau being established by veteran newsman Lee McCardell.

It was a year ago that Black and William F. Schmick, Jr., executive vice president of the A.S. Abell Co., chose Rome as headquarters for the *Sun*'s coverage of the Mediterranean area. They made the decision after a Middle East tour.

NBC's TV team of Jack Sughrue and Tom Priestly were in Rome en route home from a Tunisian assignment during which they interviewed the new republic's president, Habib Bourguiba.

One of the first of a series of farewell parties and cocktails for John and Velia Leacacos was given by Samuel Steinman, N.Y. *Herald Tribune*'s Rome columnist. The Leacacos leave Rome to return to the U.S. after eleven years. During that time John has been the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*'s European and Mediterranean expert and has covered major stories in a score of countries. The Leacacos' home in Rome has been a favorite meeting place for many Clevelanders and others who visited Rome during the years.

New York author and editor William A. Taylor and his wife, Gladys, are spending a month's vacation in Italy after making an extended tour of Greece and its islands.

Former Florida senator Claude Pepper and Mrs. Pepper are in Rome after attending the Bar Association meeting in London. Pepper is writing a series of European impressions for NANA.

Frank Brutto

PANAMA

Reece Smith is back at his desk at the *Panama American* after a vacation in London and Europe. He is local correspondent for *Time* and backstops occa-

sionally for UP and Reuter's.

John A. Menaugh, veteran staffer of the *Chicago Tribune*, vacationed in Panama as the guest of Crede Calhoun, retired N.Y. *Times* correspondent. Menaugh is a record angler—three hours after landing at Tocumen airport he landed a forty-two pound dolphin off the Pacific entrance to the Panama Canal.

Charles Elliot, field editor of *Outdoor Life*, and John Martin, *Southern Outdoor Life*, were here for the Fifth International Marlin and Sailfish Tournament.

Crede Calhoun

PEOPLE & PLACES...

Cornelius Ryan is in Spain for an August assignment, c/o Palace Hotel, Madrid...Marshall Loeb's second child, born July 23, was named Margaret Karin. Loeb, ex-UP Frankfurt, is now a *Time* contributing editor...Jack O'Brien new editor of RCA Institutional Publications.

William L. Laurence, science editor of the *N.Y. Times*, will vacation in Denmark and Italy with his wife, Florence. They are in Europe to attend scientific meetings in Moscow and Israel and will return Sept. 23.

Dorothy Edgers, wife of Newton Edgers, died of a heart attack in Tokyo on Aug. 5.

Chairman Larry Newman, in for a four-day checkup, found his House Operations Committee member Jim Flowers sharing a corridor with him at Mid-town Hospital; Flowers is there with chronic bronchitis.

Etiquette expert Amy Vanderbilt in Ireland on vacation...*Life*'s Roberto Esquenazi-Mayo was on an Austin Institute panel discussing Latin American economic and social conditions in Vermont Aug. 7.

Ruth Lloyd at the Edward MacDowell Colony in New Hampshire last weekend to do their fiftieth anniversary story...John Barkham due back from a Far East trip after Labor Day.

Armando Zegri touring Latin America writing free-lance articles. He's also gathering modern Latin American art to

(Continued on following page)

The Overseas Press Bulletin is published weekly by The Overseas Press Club of America, Inc., 35 E. 39 St., New York 16, N.Y. Tel.: MU 6-1630.

John Wilhelm, Chairman, Bulletin Publication Committee

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BILLY GRAHAM GUEST AT OPC...

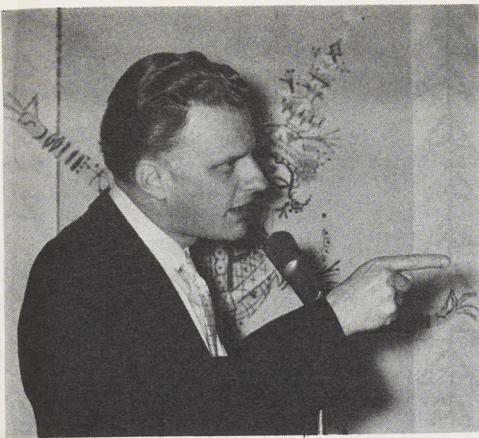


Photo: Ruth Lloyd

Evangelist Billy Graham drew the largest luncheon crowd in OPC history — more than 180 people — when he was guest Aug. 8. Graham, his weight down by twenty pounds after three months of his four-month New York City crusade, said that he had been invited to Russia, no arrangements had been made for a visit, and that the "greatest religious revival could take place" there.

Harold B. Miller, a retired Rear Admiral, has resigned as director of information for the American Petroleum Institute, effective Aug. 31...*Dorothy Ducas*, PR director for national March of Dimes, and her husband, James B. Herzog, have returned from Europe; they attended the International Polio Conference in Geneva.

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Newsman's Guide To Honduras

(OPCer William Costello has returned to New York after seven weeks in Mexico, Guatemala and Honduras where he did a series of commentaries for CBC. He submitted the following information on Honduras to The Overseas Press Bulletin with the comment: "Since there will be an election in Honduras September 22 and since this may bring in a few roving correspondents, it seemed to me that a feature on that country might be timely." He is returning to Tegucigalpa in September to handle Honduran press problems, and will be on hand to assist foreign correspondents.)

Sketch of country: Honduras is approximately the size of Tennessee; population 1,560,000, of which two-thirds are illiterate. A sub-tropical belt along the north coast includes the banana plantations and richest agricultural centers; the rugged uplands of the west and south are producing coffee and tobacco in increasing quantities; to the east is the Mosquito coast (the Mosquitia), a region of dense jungles and broad, grassy savannas only sparsely settled. Seventy per cent of the population (increasing at three per cent a year) live in rural areas and only thirty per cent in towns and cities. Principal cities are Tegucigalpa, the capital, population 100,000; San Pedro Sula, Puerto Cortes, Tela, La Ceiba, Trujillo and Comayagua.

Where newsmen stay: In Tegucigalpa, the Hotels Prado, Savoy and Lincoln are preferred. In San Pedro Sula it's the Bolivar; at La Ceiba, the Hotel de Paris.

Where newsmen drink: Prado bar, Chico club, Club Reforma, Savoy bar, the Madrigal, Tegucigalpa Club. Facilities are limited at Honduras Press Association clubrooms.

Government rules on entry and filing: An entry visa is required, and likewise a foreign office exit visa, both issued freely to Americans. Cable tolls are high but there is no censorship or restriction on filing. Exchange rate is two lempiras for one dollar.

Government information sources: Director of Public Information office is Salvador Turcios who speaks no English; his office is in the Casa Presidencial. Foreign Minister Jorge Fidel Duron once worked for UP in Washington and speaks fluent English. Roberto Galvez, one of the two members of the ruling Junta, is an MIT graduate and completely bilingual. Nick Agurcia, member of the five-man council of state, is half-American and a California graduate. Roberto Martinez, publicity director for Liberal Party, lived in the U.S.

Other good people to know: U.S. Ambassador Whiting Willauer, a professional trouble-shooter, has traveled to all parts of Honduras and knows the problems of correspondents. Counsellor of embassy John Poole is a knowledgeable career man. Lloyd Wilkins, a former newsman, is USIS director. Correspondent best able to help is Marvin Brandt, stringer for *Times* and *N.Y. Times*. Among American business men are Virgil Scott, resident manager of United Fruit; Felix Lloveras, head of Banco Atlantida; Charles Abadie, partner in Casa Uhler; Paul Vinelli, consultant to Banco Central. Two internal airlines, SAHSA and AHNSA; Joe Silverthorn of latter is always ready to be helpful.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

(Continued from preceding page)

exhibit at his New York Galeria Sud-americana.

Magazine photographer team Barrett and Mrs. (Timmie) Gallagher will cover "Operation Strikeback" in Scotland next month...*Tobe C. Davis*, fashion merchandise consultant, leaves today for a month's tour of Europe via Pan Am... Religious writer *Roland Gammon* leaves Monday to guide a tour through Europe and Russia for a month.

Len Probst, UP veteran from Geneva, Paris, Dublin and London, has resigned from UP and is now a CBS-TV news writer in New York...*Sonia Tomara* left with her husband, Judge William Clark, for Japan where they will cover the Pfc. Girard trial — she for the *N.Y. Herald Tribune*, he for the *Trenton Times*. They'll tour the world before returning in November.

Ansel "Ed" Talbert and his wife have returned from Paris...*Helen Zotos* is back in New York from the Evian-les-Bains Congress in France; she also flew through ten countries with Air France for articles for the *American Weekly*, *Commentary* and *Women's News Service*.

Gerald P. Weeren will return in October from a vacation-business trip in Europe; he is visiting the Belgian and Dutch headquarters of the publishing house, De Spaarnestad, for which he's U.S. editor.

Free-lancer *William A. Ulman* returned from a west African writing safari for his first look at his new son, Timothy Webb, born August 5.

Irene Corbally Kuhn's column, "The Way Things Are," has been syndicated by General Features Corp. The column had been distributed for eighteen months by Spadea Syndicate.

Faris rides again

INS CHIEF REPORTS VISIT TO OLD STAMPING GROUNDS

by Barry Faris

The world today is getting better news coverage than it has ever received in history.

On a recent trip around the world, I stopped in San Francisco, Honolulu, Hongkong, Bangkok, Karachi, Ankara, Istanbul, Rome and Paris. The most time I spent in any one place was in Tokyo, where a series of events kept me for about three weeks.

Conditions in Tokyo are splendid for all foreign newsmen. The Foreign Correspondents' Club, originally organized in 1945 by the group of war correspondents who moved into Japan along with General MacArthur's occupation army, is the meeting spot of all Tokyo.

In that Club you can find any visiting notable. They all go there. As a matter of fact, the Club usually has parties for anyone who is a little outside of the ordinary.

The Club is thronged with top Japanese newsmen also. The Americans make it a practice to take in as many Japanese members as possible. The Club is a great meeting place and one that adds immeasurably to the facilities of newsmen covering that part of the world.

Best Keyhole Spot

Hongkong, I think, is probably one of the best listening posts there is anywhere in the world for news from the interior of Red China. During my stop there, I met and talked with scores of extremely competent newsmen who are doing an excellent job day in and day out getting the outside world news of what is going on inside Red China.

Also, in Hongkong they have a very fine Correspondents' Club. It is situated high on a hill where during hot days it is a place of refuge from the heat.

The Hongkong Club occupies what at one time was the home of a very wealthy Chinese merchant. During the war, this merchant lost most of his property and was very happy to lease his home to newsmen. They pay a very moderate rental for such splendid quarters. Here, again, one finds the top men in all professions moving in and out of the Club.

I do not feel that our own American Agencies are paying sufficient attention to Bangkok in Thailand. This is an extremely important post. We have a strong military mission there serving as advisors to the Thailand government.

This is one of the key spots in the ever-constant battle against Communist inroads. The present government is definitely anti-Communist and welcomes the guidance it is getting from the American military mission.

New Base Growing

One of the biggest shifts in military commands took place while I was in Tokyo. The overall control of American military forces in the Far East is now under Admiral Felix Stump, who makes his headquarters in Pearl Harbor.

Under him, are the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines.

In Tokyo, Camp Zama is being developed as a real American base. Despite shifts that were made on July 1st, work expanding the buildings and quarters at Camp Zama is being pushed most rapidly. It seems very apparent that the Pershing Barracks - the main headquarters inside Tokyo itself - is going to be abandoned or turned back to the Japanese. They want it badly for government buildings, and it was my feeling while there that American military authorities think they would do better by moving almost everything they have into Camp Zama, which lies about twenty to thirty miles southwest of Tokyo.

One of the finest air fields anywhere in the East is at Atsugi, during the war a very important base for the Japanese.

In 1945 I landed at the Atsugi airport in a MATS plane. I was accompanying William Randolph Hearst, Jr. to Tokyo at that time for conferences with General MacArthur.

The field at that time was shot to pieces. American bombers had done their deadly work well. The field was covered with craters and there wasn't a hanger left standing that amounted to anything.

Today, Atsugi covers a tremendous amount of territory. Its buildings and its air-strips are the finest that can be found anywhere. The Atsugi Base is now controlled by the Navy. When a carrier comes in the harbor at Yokosuka, the planes take off for Atsugi where they are kept until they go to sea again.

All of the facilities of the Atsugi base are perfect. I made a tour of the base, mentally comparing what it looked like in 1945 with what it is today, and there certainly is no resemblance.

Helped Start Tokyo Club

I imagine many of our old members who helped form the Correspondents' Club in Tokyo back in 1945 would get quite a kick out of visiting that part of the world today. I particularly have in mind Cornelius Ryan, one of our most able and valued members. Connie Ryan was in Tokyo when I visited in 1945, and he and Howard Handelman, who was then Far Eastern Director of International News Service, talked me into giving them some help getting the Club organized.

It seemed I was supposed to have a

little influence with the then Colonel Dilliard - now General - who was MacArthur's Chief PRO. I don't know whether I did or not, but I do recall that with Dilliard's influence we were able to get the Club equipped with quite a lot of supplies. From that beginning, the Club became a very famous spot.

I was amused on my last trip when Earnie Hoberecht, that very able correspondent of the United Press, sent me a guest card for the Club for my stay in Tokyo. When I encountered him next I chided him very gently. I said: "This seems to be a heck of a note. I was a charter member of the Tokyo Press Club, helped organize it, and I come to Tokyo 12 years later and you give me a guest card."

Hoberecht laughed and said: "If you'd paid your dues during those 12 years you would, of course, have retained your membership."

I told him that I would very gladly accept the guest card.

Barry Faris,
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PARIS CORRESPONDENT OF BULLETIN VISITS CLUB



Photo: Ann Meuer

Bernard S. Redmont, Agence France Presse editor in Paris for the English language service and correspondent for *The Overseas Press Bulletin* in the French capital, was in New York on home leave for the first time in eight years. He was warmly greeted at the club by President Cecil Brown and past President Wayne Richardson. Left to right, President Brown, Redmont, Mrs. Redmont, Mrs. Richardson, and Mr. Richardson.

VENEZUELA BANS TIME

The last eight issues of *Time* Latin America — 6,800 copies per issue — have been banned in Venezuela. Wholesale confiscation was started with a story June 24 of conflict between Venezuela Dictator Marco Perez Jiminez and the Catholic hierarchy of the State.

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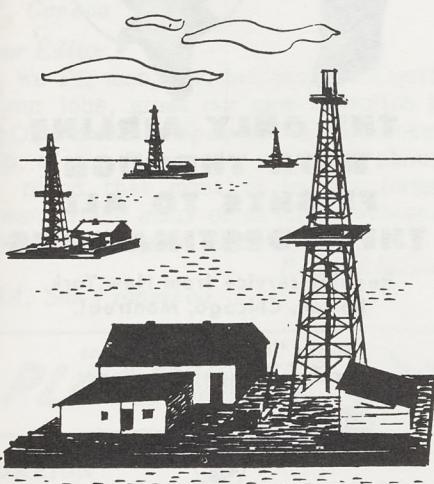
ERNST DECLINES (*Cont'd from page 1*)
to dismiss their possible part in the
case. "Why wouldn't it be up to the
New York City police to solve the
case?" they ask.

Bracker also revealed that at the
request of Morris L. Ernst, all official
discussion of the Galindez case will be
terminated in the Dominican Republic
pending the opening of Ernst's investi-
gation. Ernst and former New York
Supreme Court Justice William H.
Munson have been retained by the
Trujillo government to investigate the
Galindez disappearance.

Ernst told *The Overseas Press Bulletin* on Tuesday, through his
secretary, that he had no statement to
make at this time. *The Bulletin* is
waiting for a reply to its request that
Ernst write an article for OPC members.

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Wherever oil is found



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LETTERS

Dear Editor,

The suggestion by Eugene Lyons that we ought to find some means for identifying censored copy from abroad is highly provocative, timely and excellent.

Personally, I cannot resolve in my own mind exactly what benefits we, as Americans, would reap if such a suggestion were carried out. However, there is no doubt in my mind that the subject is worthy of complete and open discussion among professional journalists and their respective associations.

Let's get this suggestion on the road. We've got the physical means, the minds, the wherewithal. Let's get one of our committees (Freedom of Press?) rolling on this one.

If other media of communication have been able to evolve voluntary codes regarding such things as how far to let the American people in on sex and violence, surely the press can arrive at some sort of code that would let the American people in on the truth from abroad—or how we should take certain "truths" with the proverbial grain of salt.

I think we should be grateful to Mr. Lyons for making the suggestion. Now (Continued on following page)



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LETTERS (Cont'd from preceding page)

let's get down to business and do something about it.

Harry Kursh

New York

Dear Editor,

Plenty of us have been tempted to call for a "CENSORED" slug as does *Eugene Lyons*, but I'm afraid it is a Utopian idea which could never work out in practice. The main reason is that there are so many different varieties of censorship—and I don't mean only the difference between direct and indirect censorship either. In the direct kind, there may even be variations within a single country, depending on where you are, on what the current political situation happens to be, even on what the censor happened to have for breakfast. And the difference between a Russian and, say, a British wartime censor, is so vast that it would be just plain silly to mark dispatches passed by both in the same way.

Beyond that is the problem which *Lyons* himself raises in passing, that of indirect censorship, which also varies greatly between countries. The only way to make the reader properly aware of that is to mention it in every news story which may be affected by it—practically an impossible task, but worth trying at least in the most important cases....

These are only some of the complications that would be raised by a special "censored" slug. All in all, I think the present system is still the only one possible—we just have to rely on the reader's intelligence, or at least hope he has some.

Helen Fisher

UP, Geneva

Dear Editor,

We PR men, who believe in integrity, in our jobs, greet our new champion in the OPC confines—*Spencer Valmy*, spokesman of the Renegade group. It should be noted that most of us are former newsmen and many of us former overseas newsmen. We know both sides.

Robin Kinhead

PAA, San Francisco

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Egbert White, Chairman

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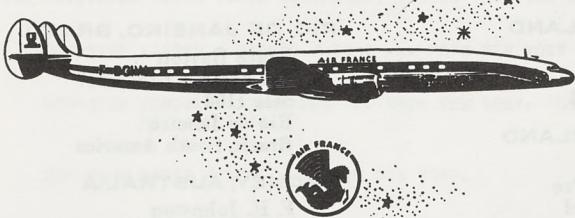
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